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"RAGS TO RICHES" OR "THE WORST MAY BE FIRST"

For nearly thirty years the Ocala Forest has bumped the bottom as a producing Forest. True enough, it has been a successful game refuge for a number of years; it gets some recreational use and has given a lot of employment through road construction, the building of a fine set of improvements and some fire control work; but the woods still have made no wages.

Our management survey data are now far enough along to afford us some light. An annual cut of 22,000 cords of pulpwood is indicated, and this will have a market in a few months. 22,000 cords means enough revenue to manage and protect the unit, enough returns to the counties to run one fair-sized county school, 27,500 man days woods work, enough labor to support 100 families most of whom are now living outside the unit boundary, thus creating some new jobs.

Representatives of the new Kraft mills at Fernandina and Jacksonville have shown great interest. Frank Albert is making test sales as soon as the mills are completed in order to determine modus operandi and demonstrate to new operators that they can prosper as well as live under Forest Service contracts. As soon as that is done, he says he's going to town.

Oh yes, there will be a little sawtimber and naval stores business too. They sold some virgin slash pine trees for \$15.50 per thousand board feet the other day, and the Forest can now accommodate ten or fifteen crops of turpentine cups on a sustained yield basis.

Moral: Maybe the worst will be first in more ways than one.

-- A. C. Shaw, Assistant Regional
Forester

LO, HOW THE MIGHTY HAVE FALLEN!

I remember no so very long ago how I was riding along a road in a National Forest and all 'round about was a magnificent stand of white oak. 'Twas not yet big enough to raise the envy of the stave cutter, but gave promise of some day netting one Forest Supervisor a goodly sum. I had come to that Forest from the coastal plains where I had marvelled at the beauty of longleaf pine and all its attendant magnificence.

It was a dismal, rainy day, and as we (the Supervisor and I) drove along through the cold, leafless oaks I unwisely had the temerity to indicate that I pined for the pines and their soft green foliage. Right away action became rampant. Said the Supervisor -- "Why, man alive, you ought to take off your hat going through these oaks! Don't you know that I sold umpty-ump thousand board feet of these cold oaks for a cool \$45 per thousand -- and yet you have the nerve to sit there and tell me that you prefer pine trees! (Oh, what a world of contempt in those last two words.) "I'll bet you a good hat that I'll make a sale at better than \$50 within the next six months!!"

Br-r-r, was I squelched?

But now, what do I see? An article in the Dixie Ranger, apparently considered worthy as a news note - and inserted by that same oak salesman - "605,000 B.F. shortleaf pine at \$7.15 and \$8.15 per M.B.F."

The marvel is not that Henry Koen came down to the selling of pine, but that he considered the sale as suitable broadcasting material.

Henry, how could you?

-- Geo. W. Root, Regional Office

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GREEN GOLD

(Editor's Note: This is the title R. Neumann Lefebvre gives the article he has written for the May number of Natural History. In his effort to awaken the citizens of this country to a realization that definite measures are necessary to make our forests everlasting, Mr. Lefebvre has written one of the most readable articles that has come our way in a long time. A few excerpts are given here, but "Green Gold" in its entirety is recommended as worthwhile reading.)

"Three hundred years ago the nation had 882 million acres in forests. This was 42% or nearly half of its land area. Our forests lay--two vital covers of green--one from the Atlantic seaboard over the tops of the Appalachians to the great plains, the other beyond

the prairies, reaching up the Rockies and down to the Pacific Ocean. Today, although approximately one-third of our land area has some kind of timber growth, only one-fourth is capable of producing in commercial quantities, and most of the nation's original magnificent virgin forests have passed their peak of production.....

"One tree can make a million matches but one match can destroy a million trees. Fire is the forest's greatest enemy. The tremendous annual 'burn' of American timber is attributable partly to our careless code of 'out-door morals' and partly to the negligent logging methods of some lumber companies. But both causes have a common root--the general apathy of the American public as a whole toward conservation. Present trends toward a militant conservationism must be encouraged and can be if all will realize that the future standard of American living is directly dependent on present advances in forest conservation. The significance of this fact is noteworthy, for man's greatest necessity next to food is wood. A vigorous and continuous conservation program is now one of the needs of the nation.....

"A valuation of our forests is contained in this statement: 'A proposal that the United States abandon one-sixth of her territory to foreign powers would be met with instant disapproval. American people would sacrifice millions of lives and countless treasure to prevent such a surrender. Yet practically as great a loss in national wealth and income would be suffered if even the privately owned forest lands of the country were allowed gradually to lapse into an idle, unproductive condition, and if the forests of other countries were called upon to furnish the wood that American forests have hitherto produced.....

"Paging back through storied North America, through the era of discovery, through the adventures of emigration, the pressure of industrialism, and the age of science--every change was part of the forest epic.....For above the American forests, the pioneers saw the kindling stars of success.....Man has always pushed back forests. In the past his greeting to the noble forests has always been 'Hail and Farewell'. Now comes the modern pioneers! They glimpse above the forest the high star of human values, and will write a new page of the forest epic--a page about 'forests everlasting'.

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FIRE WORK MAKES FRONT PAGE NEWS

The following article made the front page in the March 29, 1938 issue of the Mena Arkansas Star: MENA RANGER AWARD FOR FIRE CONTROL -- There's a new ornament in the office of Forest Ranger V. E. Taylor. It's an attractive plaque and hangs on the wall back of the Ranger's desk, a place of honor which it deserves, for it represents an achievement made by the official force which has quarters in the Mena postoffice.

On this plaque is inscribed: "Presented to the Ranger District showing the Greatest Improvement over the Previous Year in Fire Control."

Ranger Taylor is listed as the winner of this award for 1937. There is space below his name for the next four years' winners, and the plaque is to be retained permanently by the District showing the greatest improvement in fire control during the five year period. Having won the honor of holding the award for one year, the Mena District Forest Officials will renew their efforts to hold it permanently and keep it away from their five competitive groups.

In 1937 the Mena District showed an improvement of 68 percent in fire control, as against 52 percent for the six Districts in the Ouachita Forest area. The local record shows a reduction of from 32 to 6 in man-caused fires, a reduction in acres burned from 503 to 21, and only one Class C fire (10 acres or more) during the past year.

This plaque of honor is a genuine Arkansas product, being made from black walnut that grew on White Oak Mountain in Scott County. It was cut out by C.C.C. workers in Buck Knob Camp, and the finishing touches were given it at Hot Springs. Fred Harris, in charge of fire control planning for the Forest Service, presented the trophy to Ranger Taylor the first of the week.

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PAPER MILL EXECUTIVE WARNS AGAINST FOREST DESTRUCTION

A warning to southern states to take steps to protect the pine forests against rapid cutting encouraged by the advent of the pulp and paper industry is issued by George H. Mead of Dayton, Ohio, whose many connections include the chairmanship of the St. Joe Paper Company at Port St. Joe, Florida.

"If southern states allow timber to be cut as rapidly as it was done in the northern states the supply for paper will be gone and the industry worthless by the end of another generation," Mr. Mead asserted.

Mr. Mead sees as one of the greatest advantages the South holds in paper manufacturing the fact that its supply of wood can be protected at a lower cost than anywhere else. This is possible, he explained, because of the speed and intensity of growth and means that instead of a heavy burden of cost to the manufacturer the conservation program can be carried out with only a moderate added expenditure.

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GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP

Michigan State College of Agriculture and Applied Science, East Lansing, announces a vacancy in one of its graduate assistantships for the next school year, carrying a stipend of \$600.00 from September 1 to June 30. If the student's work is satisfactory, the Department will renew the assistantship for one year, enabling the student to complete his requirements for a master's degree. For more definite information, write Mr. P. A. Herbert, Professor of Forestry, Michigan State College of Agriculture, East Lansing, Michigan.

"BELIEVE IT OR NOT" IN DEER TRAPPING

1. Trap #7 made the most interesting catch of the deer trapping season. Two young ladies from a near-by town who could not resist the lure of forbidden fruit (apples are used for deer bait) were released, after shedding many tears, by a good Samaritan passing by.

2. Trap #4 had the most unusual catch of the deer trapping season. This trap was found with all doors down and the trapping personnel were sure of a catch. Carefully raising the small wooden chute door to check sex and age of deer, a lady's handbag was found at rear end of chute. Two girls had placed the bag in the trap and thrown the doors to keep the bag safe.

3. Trap #19 had the most amusing catch of the season--a sad, but wiser deer hunter, who thought he could out-wit a deer trap. The hunter was later released by a special patrolman of the deer hunt.

4. Trap #12 had the only crime of the season. A would-be deer hunter found an eight-point buck confined to chute and after carefully looking around, placed his rifle between chute door and top of chute and after careful aim, fired and missed. The buck, however, obligingly moved and the man fired two more shots, killing the buck. He then dragged the buck to a point about 200 yards away. Shortly afterwards the trapping personnel came around to check the trap. The dead buck was recovered and the would-be hunter became hunted.

Two hundred and fifty-three deer have been trapped and shipped to date.

-- John Y. Eller, Game Warden, Pisgah.

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McGINNIES TO DIRECT RANGE RESEARCH AT FOREST SERVICE EXPERIMENT STATION

Dr. William G. McGinnies has been appointed to take charge of range research for the Southwestern Forest and Range Experiment Station of the U. S. Forest Service at Tucson, Arizona. Doctor McGinnies is being transferred from the Soil Conservation Service on July 1 where he has been a regional director for the Southwest area. Doctor McGinnies was graduated in agriculture from the University of Arizona in 1921 and received his doctorate in ecology from the University of Chicago; he has had wide experience in his professional field and has made outstanding contributions to methodology of range research and developed a number of important principles applicable to southwestern ranges. Research activities of the Southwestern Station of the Forest Service cover Arizona, New Mexico and West Texas.

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APPROVE PURCHASE OF 104,778 ACRES
FOR 32 NATIONAL FOREST AREAS

The National Forest Reservation Commission recently approved the purchase of 104,778 acres of land to be added to 32 National Forests and purchase units. All land purchased will be under the administration of the Forest Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Two areas approved for purchase in the Nantahala Forest in North Carolina are near the Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest. Other lands approved for purchase in Region 8 included 7,727.75 acres in Alabama; 555 acres in Florida; 1,461 in Mississippi; 2,417 in Texas; and 3,649 in Arkansas and Oklahoma.

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MIGRATORY WATERFOWL REFUGE ESTABLISHED IN NORTH CAROLINA

By Executive Order of April 8 President Roosevelt set aside certain lands in Dare County, North Carolina, for the use of the Department of Agriculture as a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife. This reservation is to be known as the Pea Island Migratory Waterfowl Refuge.

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FISHING

When your rod begins to quiver
As you're standing by the river,
And you see your cork a-bobbin' up and down,
There's a kind o' queer sensation
Like as though you owned the nation,
Or had just been 'lected Mayor of the town.
You've forgotten all your trouble
And your heart begins to bubble
With a pleasure that is really half divine,
For there's nothing in Creation
That will beat that fine sensation
When a fish begins to nibble on the line.

-- Ernie West, SIX TWENTY SIX, North Pacific Region

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FOREST NEWS

MISSISSIPPI

More Big Trees

Not to be outdone by several recent releases in the "Dixie Ranger" relating to unusually large trees or trees of extraordinary value, H. P. Rice of the Delta Unit in Mississippi offers the following as a challenge:

Sixty acres or one-tenth of the first timber sale area on the Delta Purchase Unit has been cut over. From this area one hundred of the largest red gum logs, 45% of which were less than 16 feet in length, yielded a net volume of 72,190 board feet and returned more than \$1,195.00 in revenue. Of all the red gum logs cut to date, six percent have been shipped to Europe. The average diameter of these export logs

was 32 inches. Several carloads of veneer logs have been sold to domestic plants. Some veneer flitches were sawn from the red gum from this sale. The minimum size of these flitches was $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x $7\frac{1}{2}$ " x 8'2" and must be 100% figured. This lumber brought a price in excess of \$150.00 per M rough sawn. Incidentally, one log cut from a down tree which had been on the ground long enough to rot all the sapwood away produced six flitches.

-- R. M. Conarro, Forest Supervisor

FLORIDA

Land Exchange Expedited by New Abstracting Procedure

Although the Florida National Forest does not claim any records in consummation of land exchange cases, the following case will show that good progress was made from date of first consideration to final consummation. The case referred to is L-ACQUISITION, Exchange-Choctaw-hatchee, Richard Broxson, #12, which involved exchange of twenty acres of private land for ten acres of Government land. The progress of the case was as follows:

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Richard Broxson executed formal offer of exchange | 6-25-37 |
| 2. Approved by National Forest Reservation Commission | 8-26-37 |
| 3. Abstract received in Regional Office for review | 8-7-37 |
| 4. Abstract reviewed and sent Title Attorney | 10-5-37 |
| 5. Abstract and deed sent Forest | 10-20-37 |
| 6. Deed from Broxson to U. S. recorded | 12-20-37 |
| 7. Abstract with executed deed returned to Title Atty. | 1-11-38 |
| 8. Title Attorney sent abstract to Special Attorney | 1-13-38 |
| 9. Special Attorney sent abstract to Attorney General | 1-15-38 |
| 10. Deed from U. S. to Richard Broxson sent Chief | 3-8-38 |
| 11. Deed from U. S. to Richard Broxson sent from
Chief to Regional Forester | 3-28-38 |
| 12. Deed from U. S. to Richard Broxson sent Forest | 4-5-38 |
| 13. Deed from U. S. to Richard Broxson mailed him
for permanent record | 4-7-38 |
| 14. Accepted lands put under administration | 4-7-38 |

Total elapsed time from date of approval to placing land under administration was six months and twelve days. Since previous land exchange cases involved from one to three years, the present abstracting procedure has distinctly shown its advantages.

-- Frank A. Albert, Forest Supervisor

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PISGAH

The Pisgah District has been very successful this year in its defense against trespassers. To date, twelve cases have been initiated, eleven cases have had hearings before Commissioners and the trespassers have been bonded to appear before the spring term of Federal Court. One fire bug, trailed by Belle, Ranger Woody's bloodhound, was placed on trial and pleaded guilty. In all, twenty men have been arrested since the November term of Federal Court. Woody's sleuthy canine accounted for six of this number.

Warden training and planned schedules have been instrumental in enforcing the Preserve regulations. Meetings are held once a month and the men discuss and thrash out their problems. All administration receives a helping hand from the wardens, not only in controlling hunts, trapping, supplemental feeding, and fishing seasons, but also in scaling, recreation, improvement construction, maintenance of improvements, and road and trail work.

During the past year 65,000 brook, rainbow, and brown trout were placed in the streams on the Pisgah Preserve and Sherwood Refuge. The trout season opens on May 7 and continues through August 14. A schedule of the streams to be opened follows:

May 7-8: Sherwood Refuge

May 20-21-22: North Fork of the French Broad and its tributaries in Pisgah Preserve

June 3-4-5: Davidson River and its tributaries in Pisgah Preserve

June 17-18-19: North Mills River in Pisgah Preserve

July 3-4: Sherwood Refuge

July 22-23-24: Davidson River and its tributaries

August 5-6-7: North Fork of the French Broad and tributaries

August 13-14: Sherwood Refuge

August 19-20-21: Davidson River and its tributaries

The August 13-14 dates are conditional upon the number of man-days fishing not being exceeded in the previous periods. Forest Service personnel are permitted to participate in the fishing season and should take advantage of this opportunity. A word to the wise is sufficient--the streams were stocked with fish over 8" in length.

-- H. E. Ochsner, Forest Supervisor

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CHEROKEE

One hundred acres of shortleaf pine were planted on the Hiwassee District of the Cherokee during the spring planting season, and four thousand black locust were planted in cooperation with the Appalachian Experiment Station in the heart of the Copper Basin as an experimental project to determine the effects of the copper fumes immediately adjacent to the smelter. This planting will be watched with considerable interest by local Forest officers.

Two fire areas of approximately two hundred acres each were spot planted where the kill had been severe. On these fire areas natural reproduction had failed to come in during the two years elapsing since the severe burn and considerable sheet erosion was taking place. Fifteen bushels of black walnut seed were planted in the old fields. The seed had been stratified in a sand bed during the past winter and were beginning to sprout when lifted. It is reported that the seedlings have grown from six to eight inches in height since the seeds were planted.

-- P.F.W. Prater, Forest Supervisor

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GOOD-BYE AND GOOD LUCK!

The many friends of Miss Edna Mutz of the Division of Recreation and Lands, formerly in the Regional Office in Washington and on the Pisgah and Unaka Forests, will be interested to learn of her transfer to Portland, Oregon. We are all sorry to see Miss Edna leave, but she wanted very much to go to the West Coast. For the past two months she has been taking a secretarial course in Washington and while there met Miss Sinnott of Region 6, who was on detail in the Washington office. Regional Forester Buck had his personal car in Washington and did not want to drive it back, so the girls drove it to Portland for him.

Good luck to you, young lady, and I know from personal experience that you will soon become accustomed to the frequent showers and mists that bless the Pacific Northwest. HOS

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PERSONNEL CHANGES

Recent appointees include John R. Waldroup of the Nantahala, Omar A. Cooper of the Ouachita, Lewis H. Mielke of the South Carolina, and Annette M. Weller of the Florida.

Junior Foresters Wayne Allen of the Ozark and Chester Coover of the Mississippi have been transferred to Region 5 on fire control planning.

The following transfers have been effected: Woodrow W. Coman from Ocala to Choctawhatchee; John O'B. Kirby from supervisor's office to Osceola; Walter J. Clark of Texas to Catahoula District, Kisatchie; Leslie R. Holdridge from Caribbean to Southern Station in Puerto Rico; Wm. B. Melton from Mt. Mitchell District to the supervisor's office; Harry R. Wright from Choctawhatchee to Osceola; Norman B. Alter from supervisor's office to Pleasant Hill District, Ozark, as assistant ranger; Arthur A. Grumbine from Chattahoochee to Cherokee; Karl R. Mayer from Cherokee to Florida; John J. Ennis from Sylamore to Bayou District as assistant ranger; Wm. P. Adams from Louisiana State to Catahoula District, Kisatchie; Charles I. Bottorf from Mountain District to supervisor's office, South Carolina; Jack B. Pearson and Spurgeon McDuffie from Choctawhatchee to Osceola; Edwin P. Ahern from supervisor's office to Talladega District, Alabama.

Frederick F. Claflin of the regional office has been transferred to the Weather Bureau in Washington, D. C.

Robert L. Wierman, on furlough from Florida, has been transferred to the Soil Conservation Service at Greensboro, Alabama.

Jacob J. Idema of the Ouachita and James C. Herring of the Mississippi have resigned to accept appointments in the War Department.

Terminations and resignations include: Alfred S. Herbert of the South Carolina, Ernest B. Bolick of the Pisgah, and Mary S. Carnahan of the T.V.A.

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THE LOOKOUT

Regional Forester Kircher has been in Washington since April 23 attending the annual meeting of Regional Foresters and Directors and discussing a number of regional problems with members of the Chief's office. He is expected back sometime during this week and will leave immediately to join the allotment conferences.

Assistant Regional Forester Kramer has returned to the Regional office from Washington, where he was on detail from January 10 through May 12.

Regional C.C.C. Director Hartman was in Washington during the celebration of the Fifth Anniversary of the C.C.C. in April.

Among the visitors to the Regional Office during the past month were: Sidney Franklin and George Becker of the Soil Conservation Service; State Forester H. A. Smith of South Carolina; L. E. Stadtmiller, Director of State C.C.C. in Tennessee; J. M. Stauffer, Asst. State Forester of Alabama; E. M. Harkins, Asst. Engineer, State C.C.C., Alabama; Edward R. Linn, Secretary, Southern Hardwood Producers, New Orleans; M. L. Dickerson, Traffic Manager, Southern Advance Bag & Paper Company, Hodge, Louisiana; Fred S. Baker, Professor of Forest Management, University of California; L. E. House, District Supervisor, Jacksonville, Florida.

Members of the Regional office held their spring golf tournament at Druid Hills on May 7, with J.W.K. Holliday winning the handicap championship with a low net score of 68. Al Cox finished a runner-up with a net of 69, while Kelley Heffner finished third, with a net of 68. Jerry Allen, star golfer of the foresters, had the low gross score of 71 to win medal honors. Twenty-four golfers entered the tourney, in which flying turf replaced flying chips.

Word has been received recently that Mrs. Norman W. Jones of Chicago, Illinois, formerly Nettie Kilgore of the Ouachita, is still interested in the Forest Service. On April 5 she made a talk before the Edgemere Women's Club in Chicago on forests and conservation. As she says "previous training will tell".

Wedding Bells

Cupid still gets in his spring time work--Reno, revolutions, and recessions to the contrary. Two attractive maids in the Regional office are swapping their filing cabinets for kitchen cabinets. Miss Eliza Matthews of the Section of Maintenance will be married to Joseph Booth of Atlanta on May 18 at 5:30 p.m. at the Druid Hills Baptist Church. Miss Jewell King of the Division of C.C.C. and John H. Stone of the Division of Engineering will be married May 21 at 3 p.m. at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer. The many friends of these two couples wish them every happiness.

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Note: The field is reminded that the Atlanta Regional office is now observing Central Daylight Saving Time.

Mr. Clark has returned from an inspection tour of the Chattahoochee.

Dr. Shea is now making a tour of the Western Regions.

Personnel Officer Riebold left May 9 to visit the Florida, Texas, and Mississippi Forests.

Mr. Kenck is now on the Florida units on training work.

Fire Control Officers Paddock and Bennett are on the Homochitto District of Mississippi to conduct Fire Planners training school.

Mr. Knoch of the division of Operation has returned to the office following his recovery from an appendectomy.

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TRAFFIC RULES

The following set of traffic rules was printed in English and passed out to tourists in a Japanese city...in case you happened to be going to Japan:

At the rise of the hand of the policeman, stop rapidly. Do not pass him by or otherwise disrespect him.

If pedestrian obstacle your path, tootle horn melodiously.
If he continues obstacle, tootle horn vigorously and give vocal warning such as Hay-Hay.

If wandering horse by roadside obstacle your path, beware that he do not take fright as you pass him. Go soothingly by, or stop by roadside till he pass away.

If road mope obstacle your path, refrain from pass on hill or round curve. Follow patiently till road arrive at straight level stretch, then tootle horn melodiously and step on, passing at left and waving hand courteously to honorable road mope in passing.

Beware of greasy corner where lurk skid demon. Cease step on, approach slowly, round cautiously, resume step on gradually.

-- Monthly Safety Bulletin, C.C.C.
Safety Division

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GERMAN FORESTRY LEADERS VISIT REGION 8

Twenty-six high ranking German foresters made a hurried trip through the northeastern part of Region 8 during the period from April 17 to April 24, on which they were accompanied by the writer. These men were from all parts of the Reich and represented a cross section of the leaders in various phases of the profession. A glance at the list of names, titles, and type of work, plus the fact that these were men of middle age, is sufficient to show all have made their mark in the profession.

They came to the United States for the purpose of studying our forest practices, particularly our forest improvements, our forest land management, game management, and the handling of large forest areas. The itinerary, prepared in Germany, was hardly one designed to show the best we had. All too little time was available, except at Asheville, to really inspect forest areas, and too much time was consumed in traveling through uninteresting terrain.

The party entered the Region at Durham, North Carolina, and was welcomed by the President of Duke University, the members of the Forest School and German faculty. A hurried inspection of the Duke Forest was made on Monday morning and at 10 a.m. the party left for Asheville and from there went to Franklin, where Supervisor Gerrard had prepared lunch for the party. Following this, we transferred to Forest Service cars for a visit to the Coweeta Experimental area. From there we drove to Robbinsville and just before dark reached the Joyce Kilmer virgin forest tract, going from there to Knoxville.

A half day was devoted to looking over various T.V.A. Forestry Relations Department activities and on Wednesday we went by way of Newfound Gap to the Great Smoky Mountain National Park, where a brief stop was made to study the spruce forests. Trouble with the bus in which the foresters were traveling made it necessary to cancel stops at the Cherokee Indian Reservation and the Sylva Paper Company mill. However, two hours were devoted to an inspection of the Champion Fibre Company's plant at Canton where the party was royally entertained.

On Friday Dr. Nelson and members of his staff conducted the party through the pine plantations on the Biltmore Estate and showed them experimental work at Bent Creek. Supervisor Ochsner furnished cars and men for Saturday's trip over the Pisgah Forest where game management and cutting methods were explained. These were the two outstanding days of the tour, as they allowed sufficient time for careful examination and discussion of objectives and results.

On Sunday the party drove from Asheville to Marion, Virginia, spending two days in Virginia and the balance of the week in a tour to Syracuse, New York, and the Adirondacks.

The following are some of the impressions gained from the visiting foresters:

1. The advent of the chestnut tree blight was a major disaster in our mountain forests.
2. Our State roads are wonderful and real progress has been made on our forest roads.
3. The Germans could not understand why so much submarginal land was being farmed, nor could they see how the people on such lands made a living.
4. They could not understand why there was no forest manager on the 10,000 acres of the Biltmore Estate.
5. They were particularly impressed with the potentialities of our yellow poplar.
6. They were anxious to see some real southern pine forests with slash and longleaf pine. The nearest approach was the shortleaf-loblolly pine on the Duke Forest.
7. They were greatly interested in our wealth of tree species and their mixture in forest stands. Many of the foresters were real botanists and readily recognized our species.
8. It was difficult for the foresters to realize that anyone, by paying for a hunting license, was free to hunt on all but posted lands or game preserves.
9. They were intensely interested in our labor problems, such as housing, workmen's compensation, insurance, and social security. They could not understand how so many individuals owned their own homes and could handle their lands as they pleased.

It was a real treat to travel with this party of technical foresters and to learn from them how problems similar to ours were being handled in Germany. It is regretted that the itinerary was not more carefully planned and that more time was not available for such a trip.

-- G. H. Lentz, Regional Office

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